1973-74 prices at national level. This corresponds to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of *per capita* daily calorie requirement of 2400 kcal in rural areas and 2100 kcal in urban areas. The state-specific poverty lines are derived from the national level poverty lines, using state-specific price indices and inter-state price differential.

(c) Planning Commission is not aware of any institute mentioning the amount of calorie consumption for hardworking people.

(d) and (e) In view of (c) above, do not arise.

Estimates of poor and BPL

1118. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the estimates of poor and BPL families by the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012) and the projected percentage with reference to our population in 2012;

(b) the similar percentage position by the end of the First Five Year Plan (April, 1951-March, 1956); and

(c) whether any poverty alleviation targets have been fixed in the planning profile and the time-frame by when these would be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) As per the latest available estimates made by the Planning Commission, 27.5% of the population lived below the poverty line in 2004-05. The Eleventh Plan has projected 10 percentage points reduction in the head-count ratio of consumption poverty by the end of Eleventh Plan (2007-2012). No projections of BPL families by the end of the Eleventh Plan are available.

(b) No comparable estimates from official agencies are available regarding the percentage of persons living below the poverty line or BPL families at the end of the First Five Year Plan (April, 1951-March, 1956).

(c) The Eleventh Plan has projected 10 percentage points reduction in the head-count ratio of consumption poverty by the end of Eleventh Plan (2007-2012).

BPL segment of population

1119. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the below poverty line segment of population is assessed on the basis of calorie intake or per capita income of the families;

(b) if so, the latest NSSO survey estimate of the BPL families as on 31st December, 2007;

(c) whether there is any different yardstick for classifying BPL families in rural and urban areas; and

(d) the percentage of BPL families in relation to total population of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) The Planning Commission assesses the percentage of persons living below the poverty line using an exogenously determined poverty line. The poverty line is defined as *per capita* consumption expenditure of Rs. 49.09 per month in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per month in urban areas at 1973-74 prices at national level. This corresponds to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of *per capita* daily calorie requirement of 2400 kcal in rural areas and 2100 kcal in urban areas. The state-specific poverty lines are derived from the national level poverty line, using state-specific price indices and inter-state price differentials.

(b) The Planning Commission estimates poverty at national and State levels from large sample surveys on consumer expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) at an interval of approximately five years. The latest estimates of poverty are available for the year 2004-05 based on the National Sample Survey Data on consumer expenditure of the 61st Round. As such, the estimates of BPL families as on 31st December, 2007 are not available. As per the latest estimates, 27.5% of the people in the country are estimated to live below the poverty line in 2004-05.

(c) The yardstick to separate poor from the total population is based on persons and not on families. The poverty line, which is used as the yardstick are different in rural and urban areas. The national poverty line in 2004-05 is measured as consumption expenditure of Rs. 356.30 *per capita* per month in the rural areas and Rs. 538.60 *per capita* per month in the urban areas.

(d) As per the latest available estimate made by the Planning Commission, 27.5% of the total population of the country lived below the poverty line in 2004-05. The estimate of BPL families is not available.

Partnerships to face developmental challenges

1120. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering corporate-community-Government-Non- Governmental Organisation partnerships to face the developmental challenge of the country;

(b) if so, the action Government has taken so far to this effect;

(c) whether it is a fact that metropolises are lacking in infrastructure to meet the challenge of development; and

(d) if so, the action Government is taking to signal all the metropolises to face developmental challenge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Government has considered the corporate-community-Government- Non-Governmental Organization partnerships to face the developmental challenge